



**Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Director and State Health Officer**

**Communicable Diseases/Epidemiology  
Influenza Weekly Report  
Arkansas 2015-2016**

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**Week Ending Saturday 11/07/2015**

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During flu season the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) produces this Weekly Influenza Report for clinicians. The report provides information on flu activity in the state. The report also compares influenza-like illness (ILI) in Arkansas to activity in the US. ADH receives detailed reports of only a small fraction of flu cases. Therefore, it is important to understand that the information in the weekly update is representative of the timing and location of activity, but it does not reflect the overall burden of disease. It is presumed that there are many more people actually affected than the report shows.

### **Report Key points:**

- Since October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, there were over 190 positive influenza antigen tests that have been reported to Arkansas Department of Health by healthcare providers; week 44 reports received from Benton, Drew, Faulkner, Garland, Hot Spring, Izard, Jackson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lee, Logan, Marion, Pulaski, Saline, Searcy, Sebastian, and St. Francis.
- Among flu antigen tests that can distinguish between A and B strains, 55% were A, and 45% were B.
- Two samples tested negative by PCR testing at ADH lab last week, Two H1N1 influenza has been confirmed in Pulaski County by a private lab.
- About 5.2% of patients visiting emergency rooms last week were for ILI. Less than 1% in outpatients visits.
- The average school absenteeism rate last week was 5.5%.
- Nationwide, and for week 43, The geographic spread of influenza in Guam was reported as regional; two states reported local activity; Puerto Rico and 40 states reported sporadic activity; and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and eight states reported no influenza activity.
- Arkansas reported “Sporadic” activity to CDC for week 44.
- You can view the weekly influenza report during the influenza season at:  
<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/SeasonalFlu/Pages/FluReport.aspx>

### **For Additional National and International Influenza Surveillance Information:**

**Google Flu Trends:** Google Flu Trends uses aggregated Google search data in a model created in collaboration with CDC to estimate influenza activity in the United States. For more information and activity estimates from the U.S. and worldwide, <http://www.google.org/flutrends/us/#US>.

**World Health Organization FluNet:** Additional influenza surveillance information from participating WHO member nations is available at [http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs\\_laboratory/flunet/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/influenza/gisrs_laboratory/flunet/en/index.html).

**CDC - Seasonal Influenza (Flu) - WeeklyReport:** <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> and flu activity surveillance: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivitysurv.htm>

**Flu near you:** <https://flunearyou.org/>. Please sign up and forward to your staff!

## 2015-2016 Influenza CD/Epi Weekly Report (Week 44: 11/01/15 - 11/07/15)

### Death Report for Week 44

- Deaths from all causes: 557
- Deaths due to Pneumonia: 53
- PCR confirmed Flu Deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 0

### Cumulative Flu Deaths since 11/07/2015

- PCR confirmed Flu deaths: 0
- Death Certificate or Flu Antigen only: 0
- Cumulative Flu deaths: 0

### ER Visits\*

- Week Ending: 11/07/2015**  
Weighted Average: 5.2% (35 Hospitals)  
– Total Visits: 12,353  
– Visits with ILI: 643
- Previous Week**  
Weighted Average: 4.1% (37 Hospitals)  
– Total Visits: 14,067  
– Visits with ILI: 599

\*% is the number of ILI visits\*100/Total Visits

### Total Flu-Related Hospital Admissions

- PCR Confirmed:**  
– Cumulative: 0  
– Week ending 10/31/2015: 0
- ILI or Antigen Tested (Provisional):**  
– Cumulative: 79  
– Week ending 11/7/2015: 29

### Weekly Arkansas ILI Intensity Level Reported by Sentinel Providers



### PCR Lab Confirmed Influenza

- Total Cases since 10/4/2015: 5
- Week Ending 11/07/2015: 2

PCR Tests	ADH Lab Week44	Other Labs Week44	Cumulative Cases Since 10/4/2015
A+	0	0	1
B+	0	0	0
B/Victoria	0	0	0
B/ Yamagata	0	0	0
H1N1+	0	2	2
H3+	0	0	2
Unsubtypable	0	0	0
Total	0	2	5
Negative	2	--	

### PCR Confirmed Influenza Cases since 10/4/2015

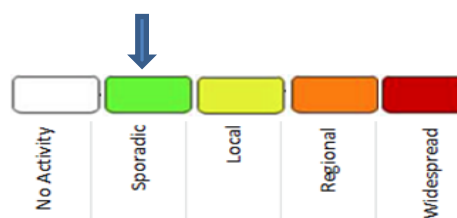
Age Groups	PCR+	Hospitalized	Deaths
0-4 yr	0	0	0
5-18 yr	2	1	0
19-24 yr	0	0	0
25-49 yr	0	0	0
50-64 yr	1	0	0
>= 65 yr	2	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total	5	1	0

### School Absenteeism\*

- Week Ending: 11/7/2015  
– Percent Absent: 5.48  
– Previous week: 5.76

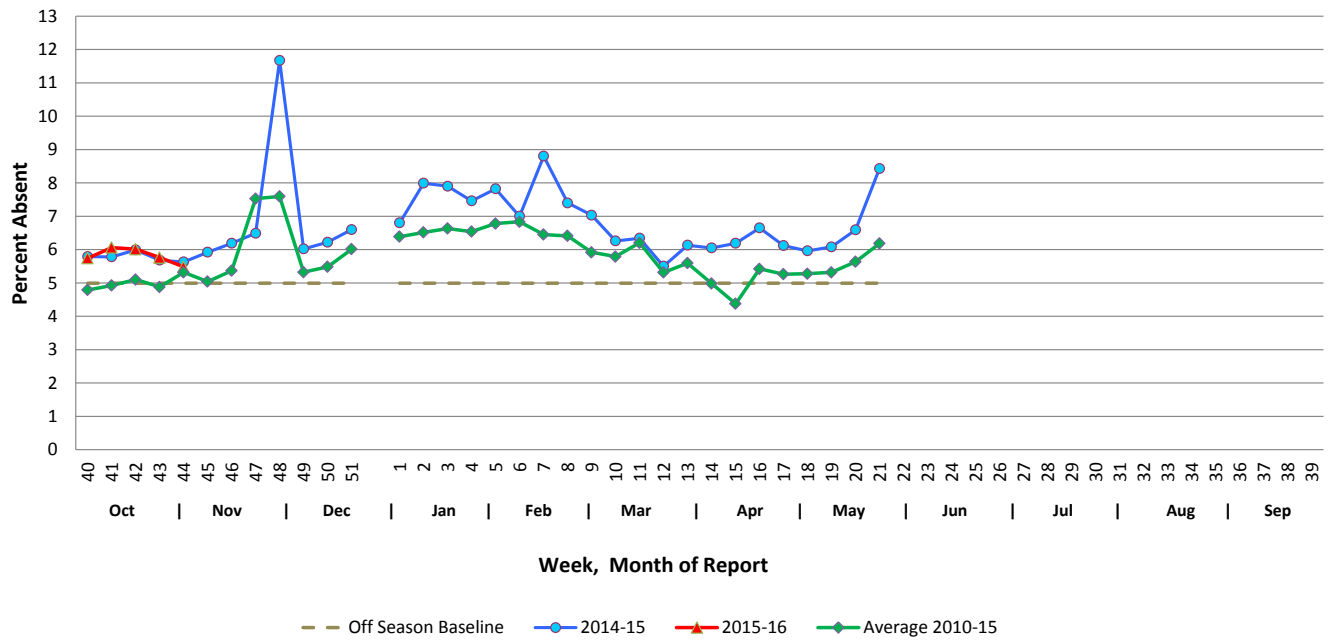
\* Average daily absenteeism for all public schools during this reporting week.

### Geographic ILI Activity Level Reported for Week 44:

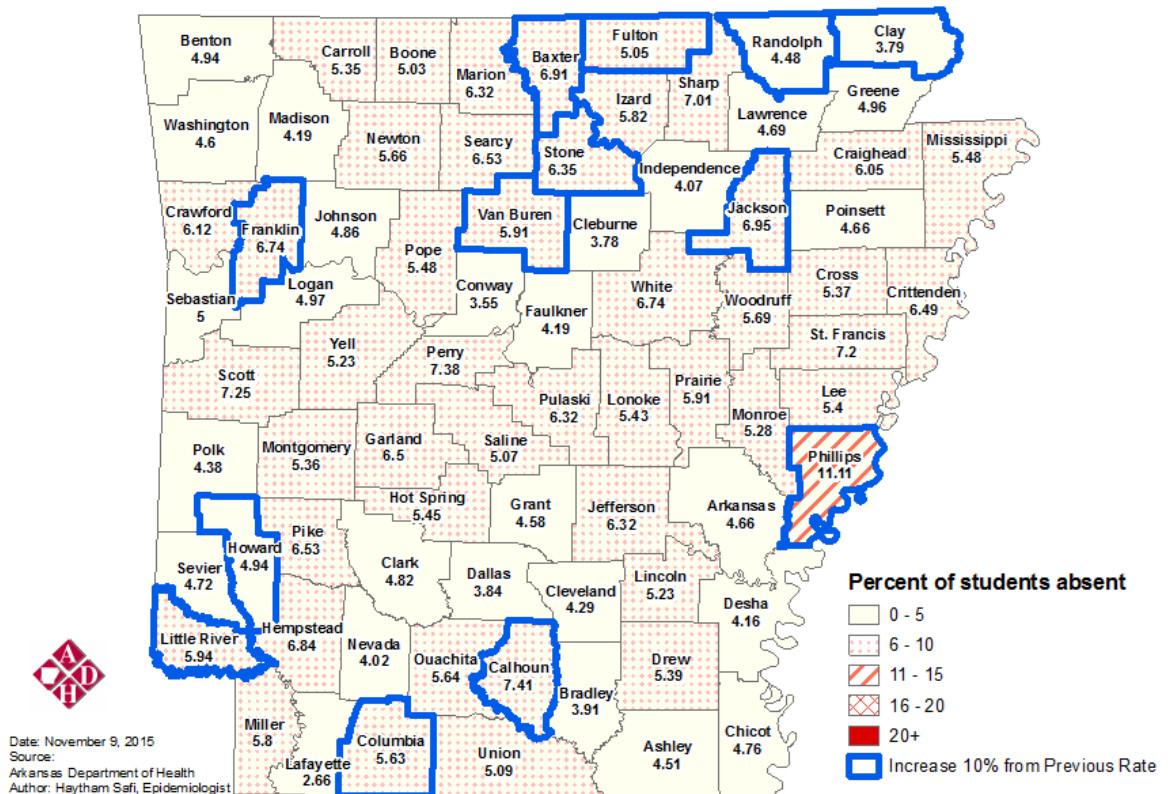


# School Report:

## Weekly School Absenteeism Rates, Arkansas Public Schools

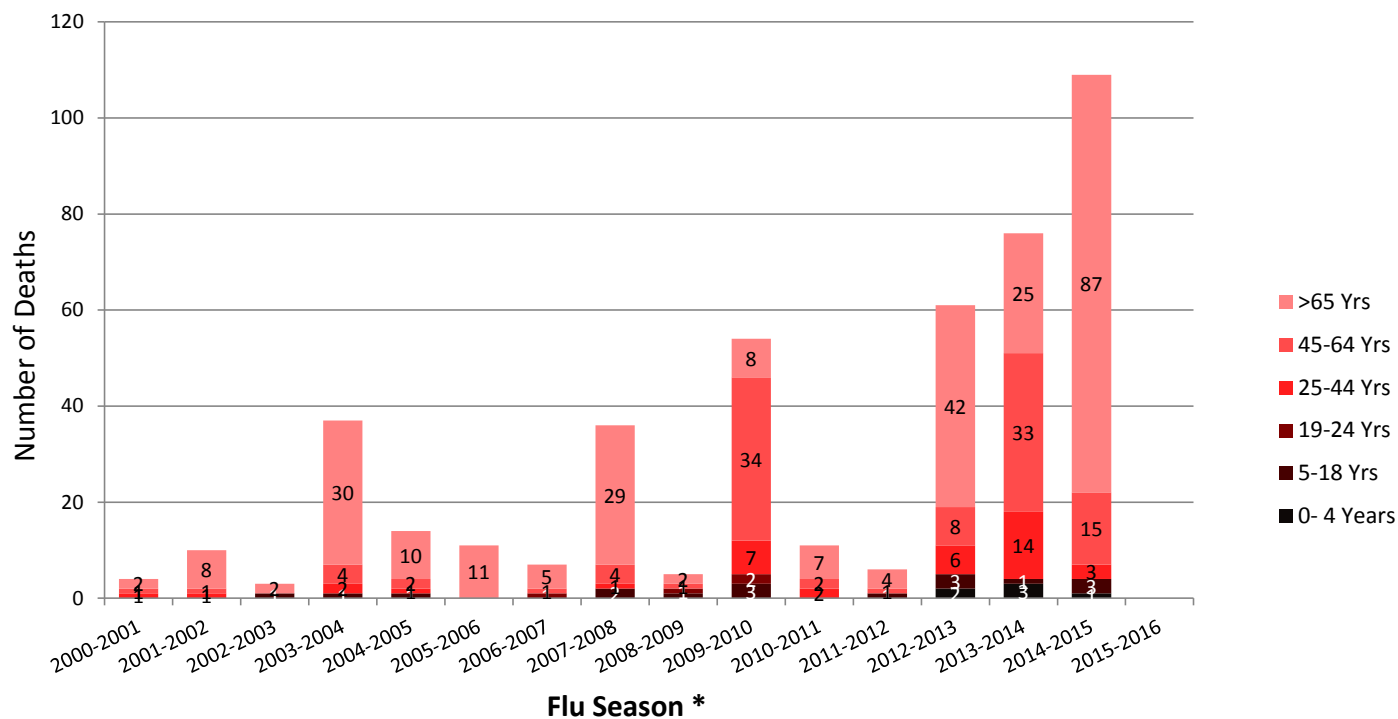


## School Absenteeism Rate per County, Arkansas 2015-2016 Percent Absent for Week Ending 11/7/2015



## Influenza Mortality by Age Group, Arkansas 2000-2016 (Provisional)

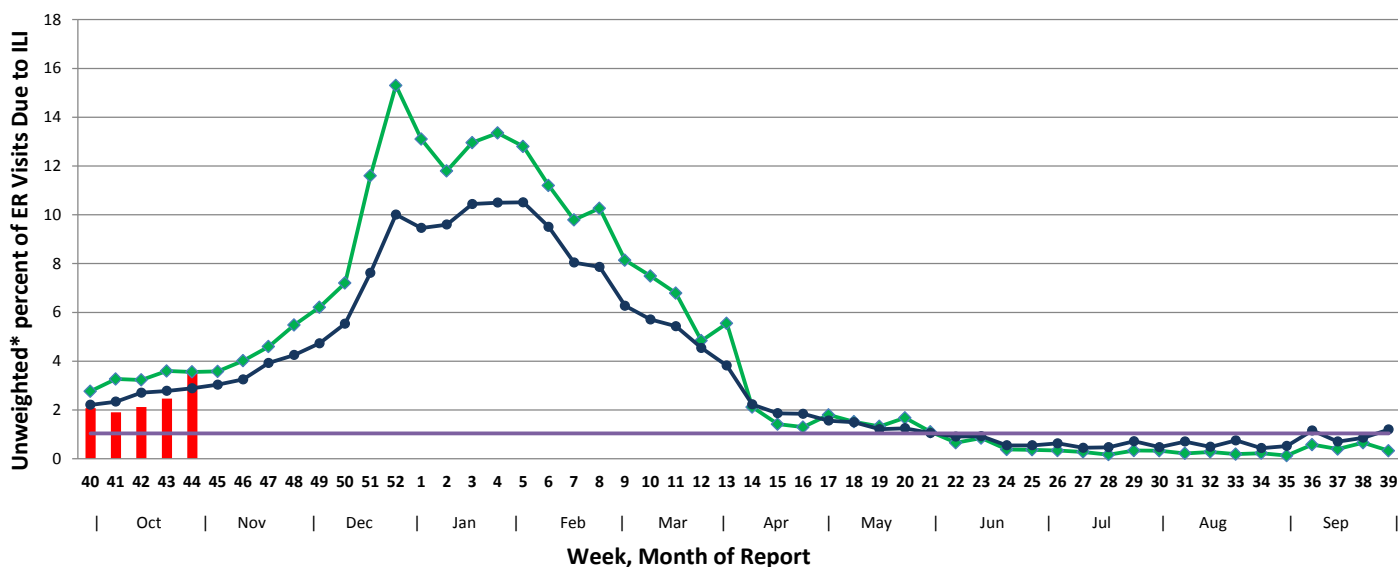
Report Updated: 10/13/2015



\* All seasons range from week 40 to week 39 except 2009-2010 started week 36  
Source: ADH Immunization Section, Center for Health Statistics

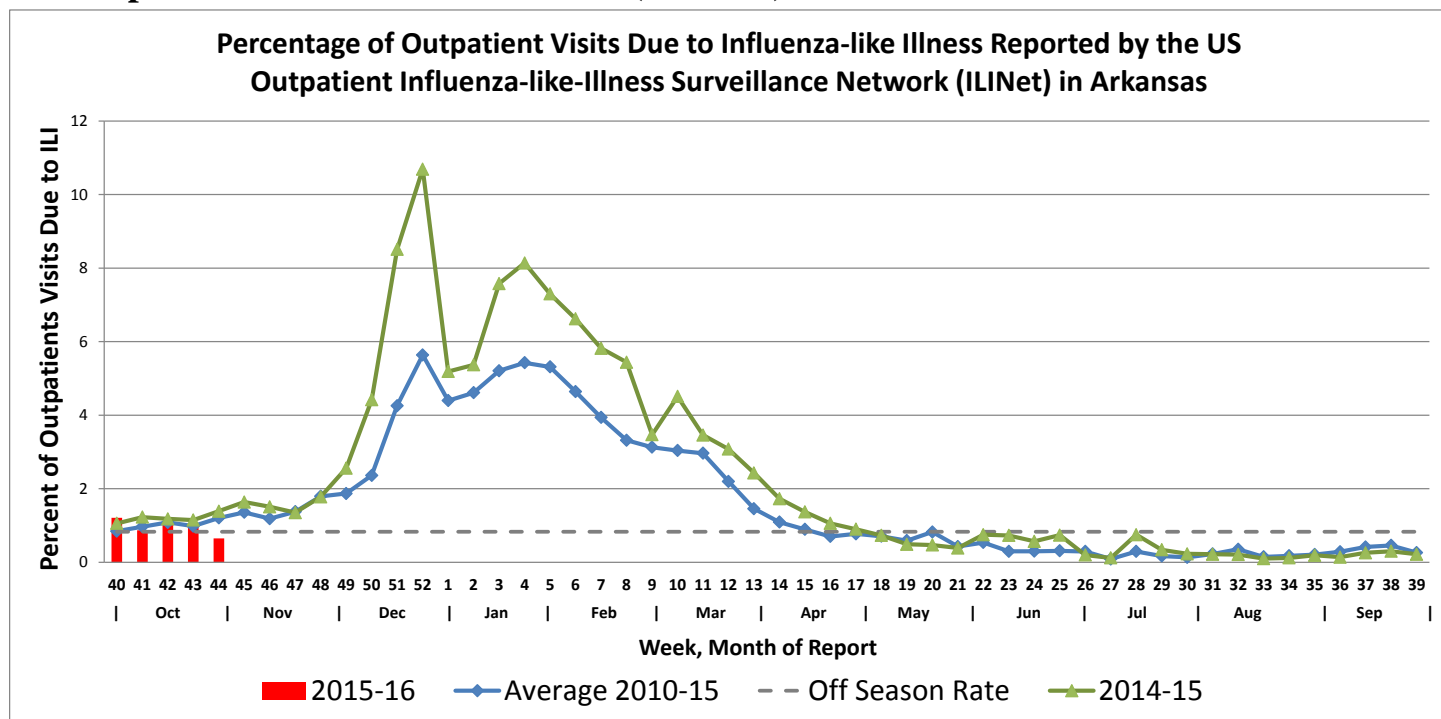
## Hospital Report – ER Visits With Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI)

### ER Visits Due to ILI, Arkansas Hospitals

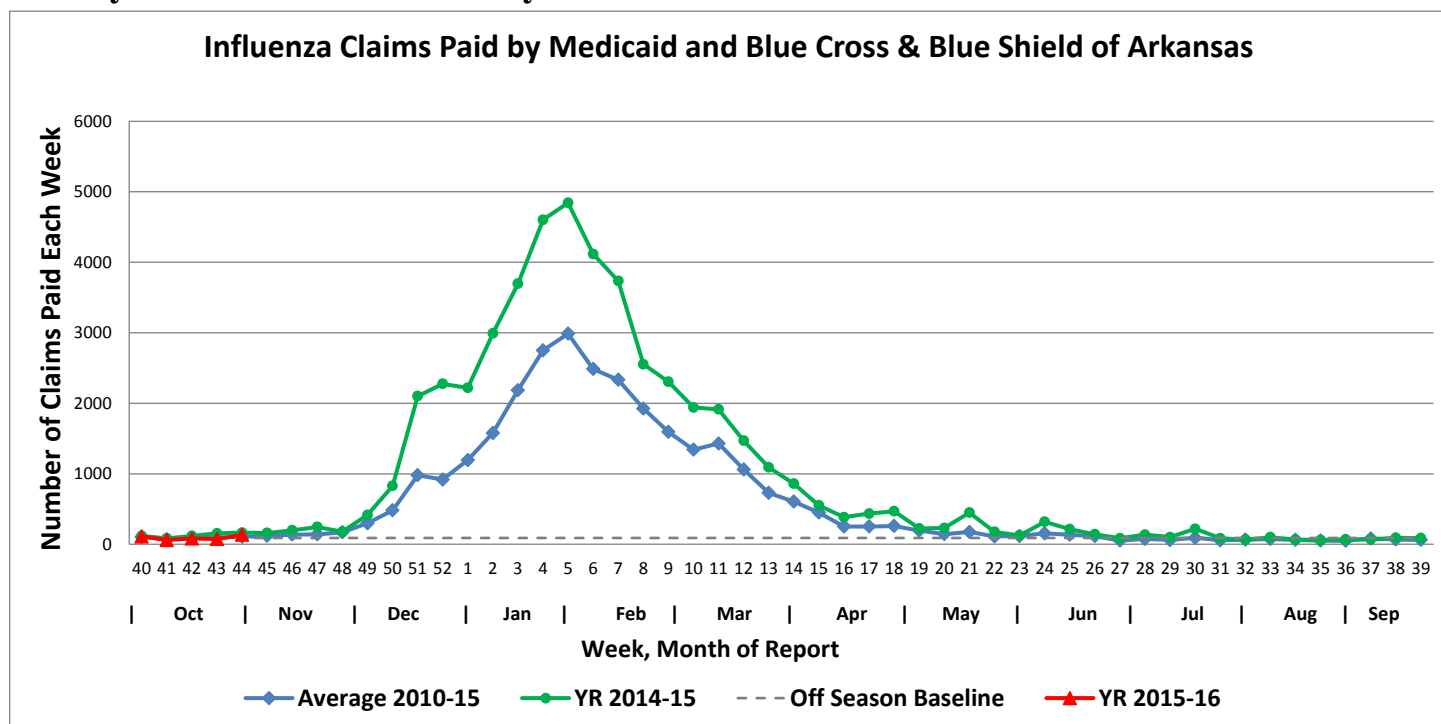


\* Mean Rate of daily percent

## US Outpatients Influenza Surveillance (ILINET)



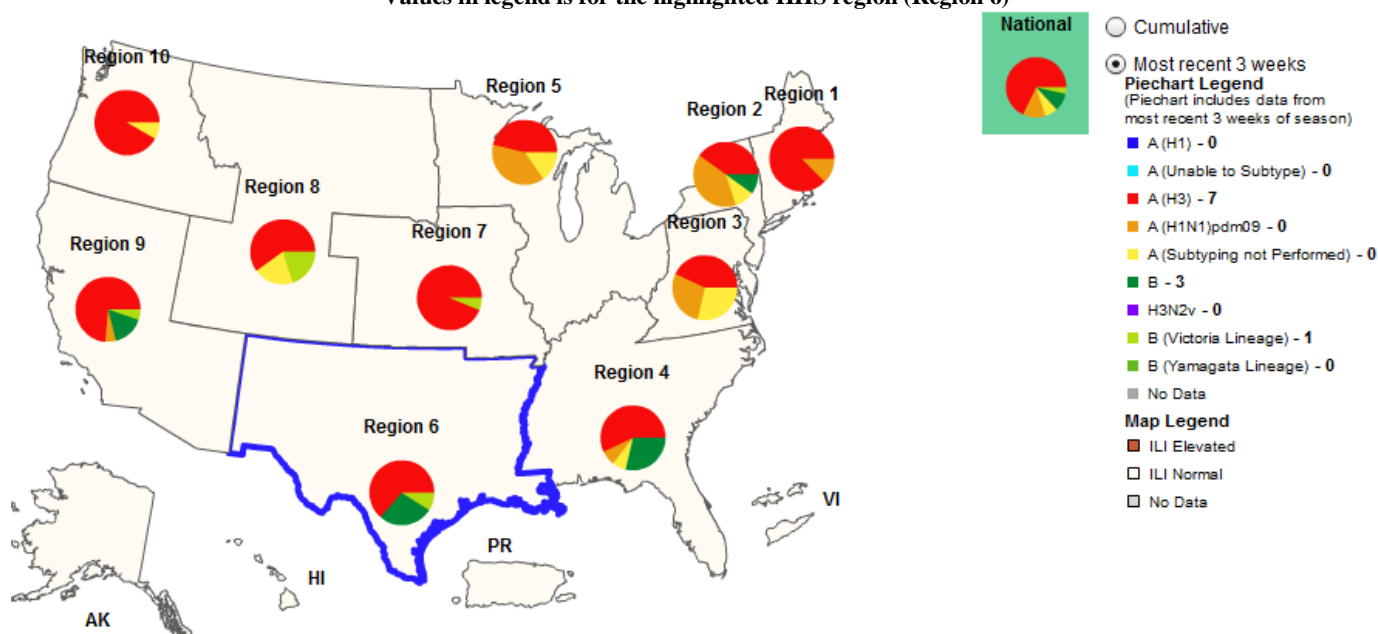
## Weekly Influenza Claims Paid by Medicaid and BCBS



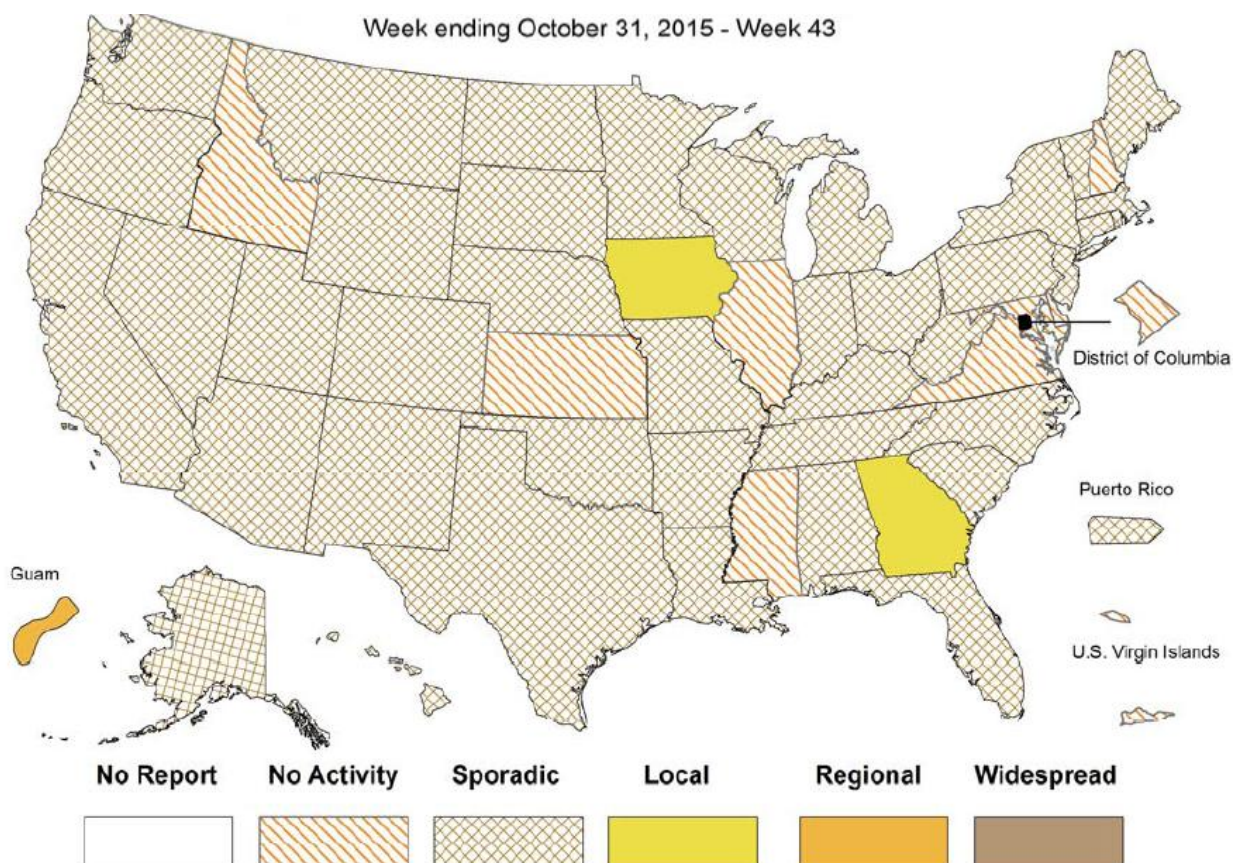


# Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC and ILI Activity, by HHS Region, 2015-2016 Season, Week Ending Oct 30, 2015

Values in legend is for the highlighted HHS region (Region 6)

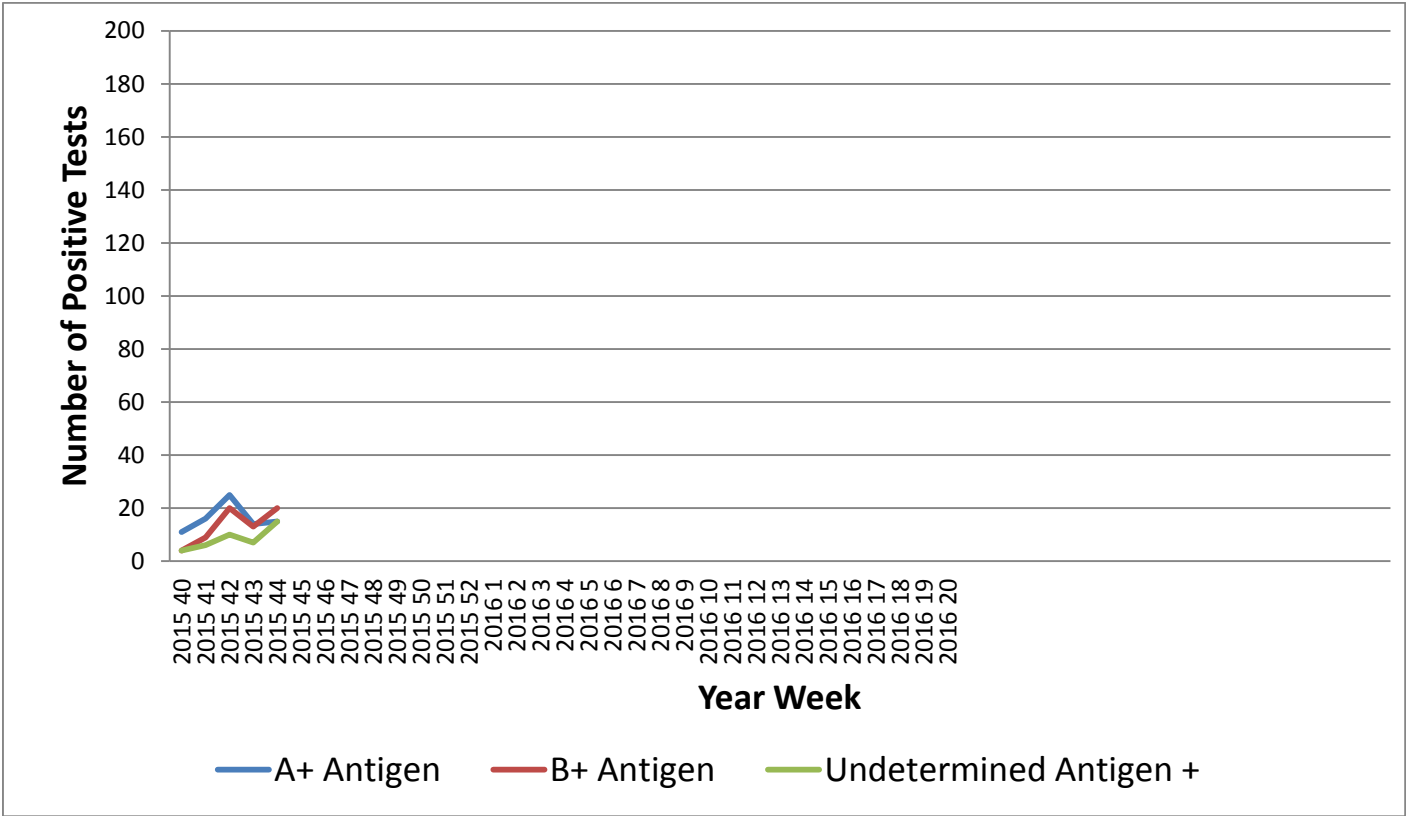
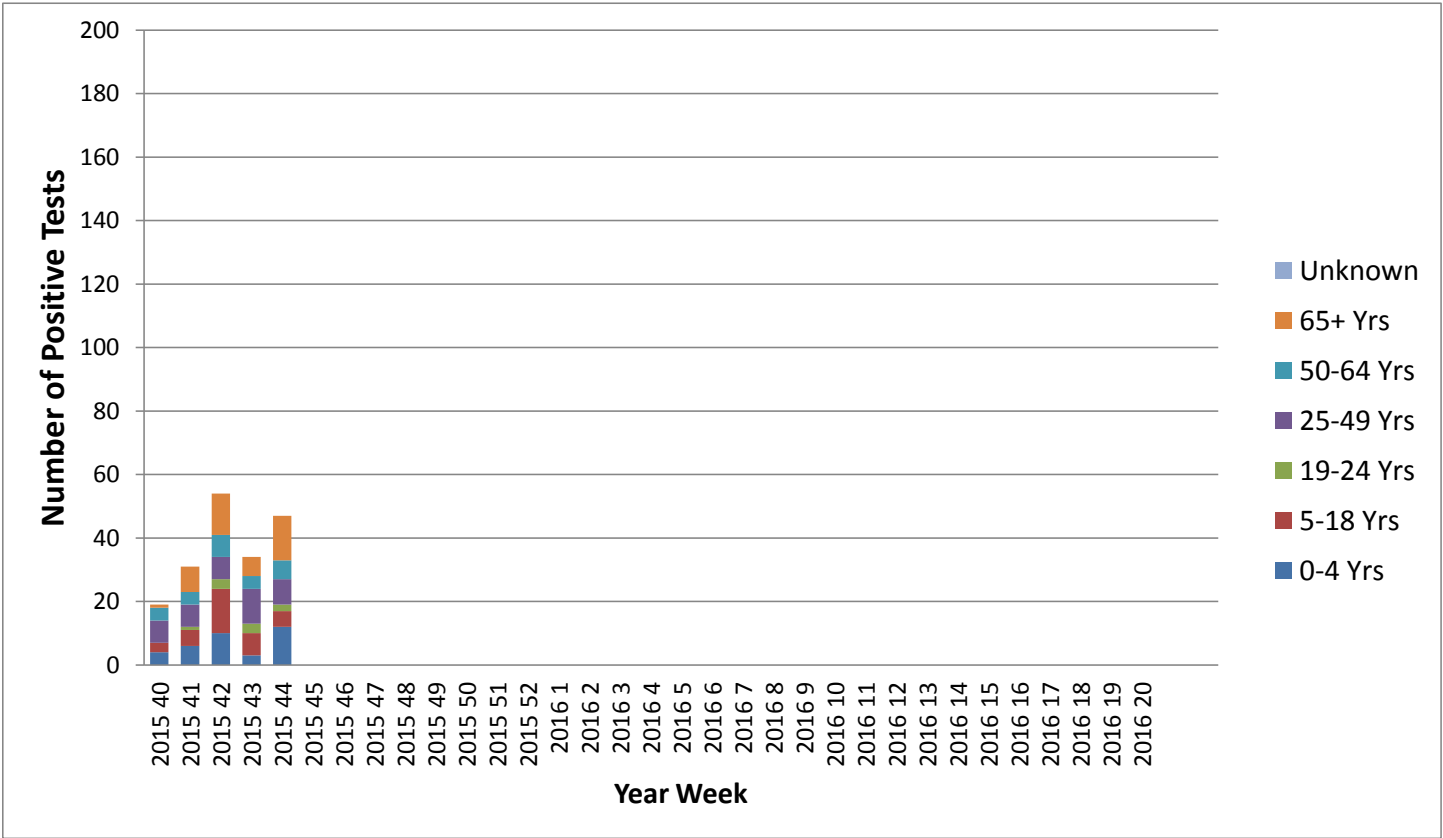


## Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists



**Arkansas Flu Activity Level Reported for Week 44: Sporadic**

Antigen Report:





Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. Public Health Laboratories,  
National Summary, 2015-16 Season

